

BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION DOCKETED

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
Chairman
JIM IRVIN
Commissioner
MARC SPITZER

Commissioner

MAY 0 4 2001

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF QWEST CORPORATION F/K/A U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF THE THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT WITH IONEX COMMUNICATIONS NORTH, INC.

DOCKET NOS. T-01051B-01-0171 T-03864A-01-0171

DECISION NO. 63640

ORDER

Open Meeting May 1 and 2, 2001 Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- On February 27, 2001, Qwest Corporation ("Qwest"), f/k/a U S WEST 1. 15 Communications, Inc., filed an application for approval of the Third Amendment to the 16 Interconnection Agreement between Qwest and Ionex Communications North Inc. ("Ionex"). The 17 original Interconnection Agreement was approved by the Commission on August 24, 2000, in 18 Decision No. 62841.
- The Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act"), directed incumbent local 2. 19 20 exchange carriers to make their networks available for interconnection and resale by new entrants 21 to the local exchange market. The 1996 Act provides for interconnection and resale agreements to 22||be concluded by voluntary negotiation.
- This Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest and 23 Ionex was voluntarily negotiated, without resort to arbitration.
- 4. Under the terms of this Third Amendment, the Interim Line Sharing Agreement is 25 26 replaced in its entirety and terms and conditions relating to Line Sharing are added to the 27 underlying Agreement.

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- According to the 1996 Act, the Commission must approve voluntarily negotiated 5. 2 interconnection and resale agreements, if their provisions are non-discriminatory and in the public 3 linterest.
- 6. Staff has reviewed the Third Amendment and finds it to be non-discriminatory and in 5 the public interest. Owest is offering the same terms and conditions of the Agreement to all other 6 interested parties. The Agreement is in the public interest because it will act to further competition in the local exchange market in Arizona.
 - Since there are no grounds for rejection of the Third Amendment pursuant to 7. |Section 252(e)(2)(A) of the 1996 Act, Staff has recommended that the Commission approve the Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest and Ionex.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Owest is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.
- The Commission has jurisdiction over Ionex and over the subject matter of the Application.
- The Commission, having reviewed the Application and Staff's Memorandum has 3. determined that the Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement negotiated between Owest and Ionex meets the requirements of Section 252(e)(2)(A) of the 1996 Act, which governs the approval of voluntarily-negotiated agreements and is in the public interest.
- The Commission maintains jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Agreement and Amendments thereof, to the extent permitted pursuant to the powers granted the Commission by the Arizona Constitution, Statutes, Commission Rule, and the 1996 Act and the Rules promulgated thereunder.

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CHAIRMAN

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Commission hereby approves the Third Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest and Ionex filed on February 27, 2001.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, BRIAN C. McNEIL, Secretary of the Corporation Executive Arizona Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 4th day of Meen

BRIAN C. MÉNEIL Executive Secretary

DISSENT:

DRS:EAA:jbc/MAS

63640 Decision No.

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